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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## After a Wildfire - Consumer Tips on Claims, Adjusters and Contractors

To help homeowners impacted by the Black Forest wildfire, the Colorado Division of Insurance (DOI) today released "After a Wildfire - Consumer Tips on Claims, Adjusters and Contractors," available at <a href="www.dora.colorado.gov/insurance">www.dora.colorado.gov/insurance</a>. It offers tips on using the DOI as a resource, hints on making the claims process a little smoother, and advice on the hiring of <a href="public adjusters">public adjusters</a> and contractors (for demolition, removal, restoration and repairs).

This tip sheet asks impacted individuals and families to be careful and thoughtful as they work through insurance and repair processes. Homeowners should make note of all work and conversations with their insurance companies, agents and adjusters, ensuring that nothing is misunderstood or overlooked. In addition, people should research who they hire regarding their homes, as disasters such as wildfires can invite unethical characters. Even with the many reputable contractors and public adjusters, homeowners can get into trouble if they do not fully understand the agreements they sign.

Anyone impacted by a fire should know the DOI works with consumers to answer questions, help them understand their insurance, investigate complaints, and ensure consumers receive the benefits for which they have paid. Contact the DOI at 303-894-7490 / 1-800-930-3745 / dora\_ins\_website@state.co.us.

The <u>Colorado Division of Insurance</u> regulates the insurance industry and assists consumers and other stakeholders with insurance issues.

The <u>Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA)</u> is dedicated to preserving the integrity of the marketplace and is committed to promoting a fair and competitive business environment in Colorado.

Consumer Protection is Our Mission.

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